



**THERE'S
JUST TOO
MUCH
STUFF!**

PACKING YOUR
COMMO SHELTER
AND YOUR MSE
GENERATOR TRAILER
TO GO TO THE FIELD
CAN BE A REAL
CHALLENGE.

THERE'S
**SO MUCH
STUFF** AND
**SO LITTLE
ROOM.**

HERE ARE SOME OF THE **COMMON
PACKING PROBLEMS** AND HOW TO
OVERCOME THEM...



Trailer

Loading your MSE generator trailers with extra gear and fuel creates heavy problems. The weight of extra gear—camouflage netting, poles, cots, tents, fuel cans—cracks the trailer's leaf springs. It also causes the fenders to rub against the tires. Extra fuel on board is a fire hazard.

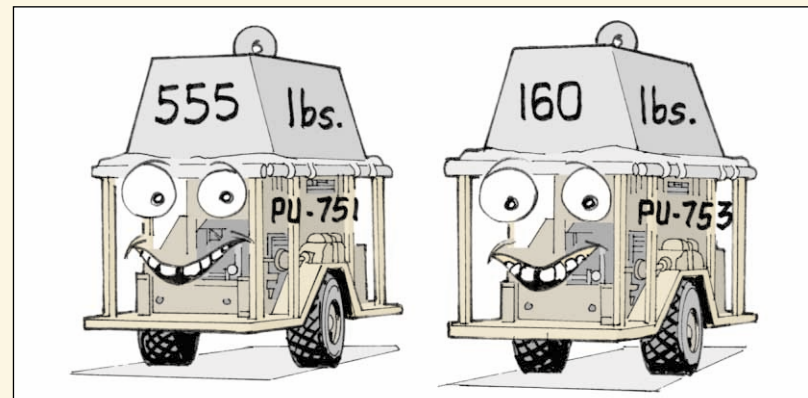


You can stow up to 555 pounds of MSE transit equipment on the PU-751 5-KW generator without damaging the trailer. The PU-753 10-KW generator can handle only 160 pounds.

Once you reach the limit, all other

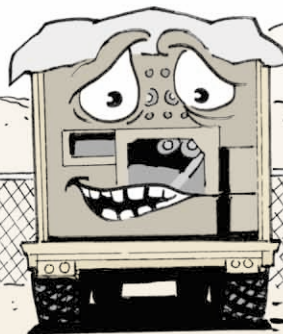
gear must go elsewhere. Generally, limit gear packed on a trailer to:

- Shelter's COEI/BII
- Two 15-meter antennas or two 9-meter antennas
- Any necessary cables



If you want to increase the load capacity of the trailer, have your support unit install two heavy duty springs, NSN 2510-01-353-3116, and four U-bolts, NSN 5306-01-147-8225. The springs will increase the payload by 160 pounds.

YOU'LL FIND THE SPRINGS AND U-BOLTS IN FIG 27, APPENDIX F, OF TM 9-2330-202-146P.



SOME UNITS HAVE MODIFIED THEIR TRAILERS TO CARRY FUEL CANS. THAT CAN BE DOWNRIGHT **HAZARDOUS.**

FUEL CANS POSE A FIRE HAZARD IF MOUNTED **ANYWHERE** NEAR HOT EXHAUSTS.

SO, WHEN YOU RUN YOUR GENERATOR, TAKE THE FUEL CANS OFF...

AND STORE THEM AT **LEAST FIFTY FEET AWAY.**



On Top of the Shelter

Your shelter top has two thin layers of metal covering conductive foam and they tear quite easily. Tossing or storing heavy or sharp objects on the top just invites damage. Some of the worst offenders are concertina wire and ground rods.

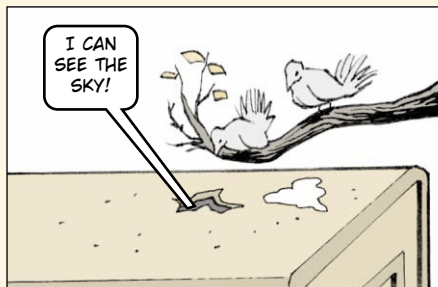
The only load-bearing surfaces on your shelters are at the corners—not the roof itself!

If you have no choice but to load gear on your shelter's roof, put pallets or plywood under the equipment to protect the skin and let the corners bear most of the weight.

Also, remember that putting items on top of the shelter changes the center of gravity of the vehicle. Too tall a load is a safety hazard!

Again, only place things on top of the shelter if absolutely necessary. CECOM prefers that nothing go on top!

If your roof already has punctures or broken seams, get them fixed immediately. Shelter leaks cause electrical shorts. Find out what you can fix and what tools and materials you need to do the work in TB 43-0124, *Maintenance and Repair Procedures for Shelters*. It tells you all you need to know to do unit-level repairs.



Inside the Shelter

Looking inside a packed commo shelter can remind you of your dad's garage or your grandma's attic—stuff is stuck everywhere!

The fact is, if it must go and it can't go anywhere else, it winds up **in** your shelter. But far too often, those things that wind up in your shelter wind up breaking delicate commo equipment—switches, knobs, displays, handles, connectors and cables.

The only way to stop breakage is to plan your storage, then carefully pack and unpack.

Planned storage starts with a list of what goes in the shelter, in what order, and notations next to the items that have a special area they fit in.

Store everything that doesn't go in the middle of the shelter first. Then store the middle items, putting the biggest and heaviest on the bottom.

Packing and unpacking usually causes most of the damage. Let's face it, you're always in a hurry, whether you're setting up or taking down. Items get tossed in and tossed out and often hit delicate commo equipment on the way.

Bodies move in and out grabbing equipment and bumping knobs and switches.

But here is the reality: With a good load plan in place, you can set up and take down just as fast as your neighbor, because adjustments won't need to be made and repacking won't need to be done. And just think of the time you'll save by not having to wait for your equipment to be repaired!

